

FEMA Announces Implementation of Immediate Needs Funding

FEMA's top priorities are meeting disaster survivors' immediate needs and ensuring states, tribes and territories have the necessary lifesaving and life-sustaining resources to respond to disasters.

Since the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is approaching exhaustion, and given the current disaster environment, FEMA is implementing Immediate Needs Funding (INF) guidance to extend the remaining balance. While we had intended to provide ten full days notice, the current disaster environment with a major fire and multiple hurricanes make it necessary to implement INF immediately. This will allow FEMA to continue its focus on response and urgent recovery efforts without interruption.

INF is intended to meet the urgent needs of disaster survivors and will prioritize funding for lifesaving, life-sustaining, and critical disaster activities. There have been a number of times in the past where the Agency found it necessary to issue INF, as a precautionary measure, to maintain an adequate DRF balance while awaiting passage of appropriations legislation.

When INF is implemented, funding will continue for Individual Assistance, Public Assistance essential for lifesaving and life-sustaining activities, state management costs, mission assignments and critical ongoing disaster operations.

Under INF, there will not be new obligations for Public Assistance not essential for lifesaving and life-sustaining activities, permanent work and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Obligations for these activities will be paused until the DRF is sufficiently funded. However, FEMA will continue to accept and process Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation grant applications even in categories where the obligations are paused.

It is critical that we adhere to these guidelines to ensure our agency has the resources needed to respond during catastrophic disasters. Please reach out to FEMA-FBO-Action-Tracker@fema.dhs.gov if you have questions about how this will impact particular projects.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact FEMA Office of External Affairs:

- Congressional Affairs at (202) 646-4500 or at FEMA-Congressional-Affairs@fema.dhs.gov
- Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 646-3444 or at FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov



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